



## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS  
Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 974-1465 or (213) 974-1431  
Website: <http://sbc.lacounty.gov>

FOUNDER  
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON  
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montañó

VICE CHAIRPERSON  
Mrs. Helen H. Stathatos

Mr. Frank S. Bacio  
Mr. Vito Cannella  
Ms. Rita Hall  
Mr. John A. Hammargren  
Mr. Carl E. Moore

### **MINUTES OF THE** **SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS** **REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING** **NOVEMBER 28, 2007**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Montañó called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

#### **OPENING CEREMONIES**

Chair Montañó led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

##### **Present**

Chair Eleanor R. Montañó  
Vice Chair Helen Stathatos  
Frank Bacio  
Vito Cannella  
Rita Hall  
John Hammargren  
Carl E. Moore

##### **Others Present**

Janice Davis, Commission Services Staff  
Andrew Sevrin, Commission Services Staff  
Garen Khachian, Commission Services Staff

#### **APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 7, 2007 MEETING MINUTES**

**On motion of Commissioner Hammargren, seconded by Commissioner Cannella, and unanimously carried, the minutes of November 7, 2007 were approved, with no changes.**

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Montaña reported on the following:

- "Firings Are Urged Over Misuse Of Kid's Money", Los Angeles Times, November 8, 2007, regarding the misuse of County funds.
- "Misuse of County Funds", Daily Breeze, November 8, 2007, regarding agency employees taking money meant for foster children.
- "D.A. Reviewing Results Of Child Welfare Audit", Los Angeles Times, November 9, 2007, regarding the possibility of criminal charges being filed in the alleged misuse of gift cards.
- "Probation Officer Accused Of Child Abuse", Los Angeles Times, November 10, 2007, regarding a Probation Officer opening a minor's cell and allowing him to fight with another minor.
- "Schooled On Race", Los Angeles Times, November 19, 2007, regarding both Caucasian and African American educators having their feelings hurt at a state conference.
- "Focus On Youth Center", Los Angeles Times, November 19, 2007, regarding California sending more juveniles to prison for life than any other State.
- "Hotline Calls Reveal Thefts, Welfare Fraud", Los Angeles Times, November 22, 2007, regarding the Los Angeles County Program leading to 348 criminal probes in six months.
- "Hotline Tips Reveal County Workers' Fraud", Daily Breeze, November 23, 2007, regarding criminal prosecutions, firings and resignations resulting from investigations.
- "Sheriff Wants A New Jail, Knows Odds Are Against Him", Los Angeles Times, November 23, 2007, regarding Sheriff Lee Baca stating that replacing the county's oldest penal facility would cost at least \$500 million.
- "Baca's Jail Plan Gets ACLU'S Support", Los Angeles Times, November 27, 2007, regarding the organization to urge the Board of Supervisors to demolish the Men's Central Jail downtown and replace it with a new building.

The Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN) Nexus XII" Training Conference on "Violence Within the Home and Its Effects on Children" was held on November 14, 2007 at the Sheraton Universal Hotel, Universal City. It was a very worthwhile, informative, and interesting conference. Chair Montaña made reference to two (2) well written books she purchased regarding child abuse, "Lost Boy" and "A Child Called It".

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Commissioner Bacio reported the current balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$558.17.

## **STAFF REPORT**

Ms. Janice Davis, Staff, Commission Services gave the following reports:

- The Commission warrants for pay period 11/15/07-11/30/07 requires that all Commissioners provide identification to the Fiscal Division prior to receiving their warrants. Staff will escort commissioners to the Fiscal Division after today's meeting.
- The dollar amount each Commissioner owes for the purchase of personalized cards with the holiday music CD's are as follows:

|                        |          |
|------------------------|----------|
| Chair Montano          | \$6.50   |
| Commissioner Hall      | \$50.25  |
| Commissioner Moore     | \$50.25  |
| Commissioner Stathatos | \$50.25  |
| Sybil Brand Commission | \$100.25 |

- The Sybil Brand Commission donated a check to the "Tierra Del Sol Foundation" for \$100.00 on November 7, 2007.
- The "Information Bulletin from Home Land Security Advisory" was received by the Commission, notifying the Commission they need to wear their identification badges at all times.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

There were none.

## **THE SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION HOLIDAY RECEPTION**

**On motion of Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Hammargren, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved advancing Ms. Janice Davis \$300.00 from the Sybil Brand Treasury for purchasing food for the Holiday Reception.**

## **FACILITY INSPECTION REPORTS FROM NOVEMBER 7 TO NOVEMBER 27, 2007**

### **Rosemary Children's Services – 54, #3 – Commissioner Stathatos**

The facility was visited on November 8, 2007 and found to be in fair condition.

**Areas of Concern:** A stain glass window and the piano in the front hall are damaged; three (3) fire extinguishers need service; smoke detector needs battery.

### **Rosemary Children's Services – 54, #1 – Commissioner Stathatos**

The facility was visited on November 12, 2007 and found to be in good condition.

### **Pinnacle Foundation – 49, #1 – Commissioners Hammargren and Montañó**

The facility was visited on November 13, 2007 and found to be in satisfactory condition.

**Area of Concern:** Sink next to washer needs caulking.

**St. Paul Group Home – 59, #1 – Commissioners Bacio and Hall**

The facility was visited on November 13, 2007 and found to be in satisfactory condition.

**Areas of Concern:** Tutoring not available; records located at main office; two (2) bedrooms need painting, broken window needs repair, disaster drills not posted, and one (1) smoke detector needs a battery.

**Crescenta Valley Sheriffs Station – Commissioner Cannella**

The facility was visited on November 14, 2007 and found to be in good condition.

**Walnut Regional Sheriffs Station – Commissioners Bacio, Hall and Moore**

The facility was visited on November 15, 2007, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

**Area of Concern:** Oven needs racks.

**Long Beach Court House – Commissioners Hammargren and Montaña**

The facility was visited on November 19, 2007 and found to be in satisfactory condition.

**Areas of Concern:** Facility needs another live Scan machine; floor needs to be refinished.

**Rosemary Children's Services – 53, #5 – Commissioner Stathatos**

The facility was visited on November 19, 2007 and found to be in inadequate condition.

**Areas of Concern:** Floor had rat holes; home needs fire extinguishers installed; insufficient supply of canned foods; no fruits and fruit juices; no fresh frozen meats; no menus posted.

**Manna Manor – 38, #5 – Commissioner Montaña**

The facility was visited on November 20, 2007 and found to be in satisfactory condition.

**Dangerfield Group Home – 14, #2 – Commissioners Bacio, Hall and Moore**

The facility was visited on November 20, 2007 and inspection was not conducted because the Director informed the Commission, Chair Montaña conducted an inspection three (3) weeks ago.

**Rosemary Children's Services – 53, #4 – Commissioner Stathatos**

The facility was visited on November 20, 2007 and found to be in good condition.

**Lakewood Sheriffs Station – Commissioners Hammargren and Montaña**

The facility was visited on November 21, 2007 and found to be in satisfactory condition.

**Area of Concern:** Telephone wire was too long and poses safety issues.

**Altadena Sheriffs Station – Commissioner Cannella**

The facility was visited on November 21, 2007 and found to be in good condition.

**St. Paul Group Home – 58, #5 – Commissioners Hammargren and Montaña**

The facility was visited on November 26, 2007 and found to be in poor condition.

**Areas of Concern:** Office has a lot of leftover possessions from previous clients; notices are not posted; social worker needs to cleanup the files and the paper in office.

**Downey Community Day School – Commissioners Bacio, Hall and Moore**

The facility was visited on November 27, 2007 and found to be in satisfactory condition.

**Rosemary Children's Services – 54, #2 – Commissioner Stathatos**

The facility was visited on November 27, 2007 and found to be in good condition.

**Manna Manor – 39, #2 – Commissioners Hammargren and Montaña**

The facility was visited on November 27, 2007 and found to be in good condition.

**NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were none.

**MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To be presented and placed on a future agenda)**

Commissioner Moore brought in a CD he received from the Sheriff's Department regarding ICAN "Los Angeles County Child Abuse And Neglect Protocol" and suggested the Commission view it at a future meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chair Montaña adjourned the meeting at 12:07 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Janice Davis*  
Commission Services Division